

TAKE POSSESSION OF THE LAND!
A study in Deuteronomy
AMEN Bible Study 2010-2011

MEN, THIS IS SERIOUS: COVENANT STIPULATIONS
A CURSE OR A BLESSING
Deuteronomy 27, 28
April 21, 2011

27:1-26 I. The covenant must be remembered and renewed.

“And on the day you cross over the Jordan to the land that the Lord your God is giving you ...”

:1-8 A. Remember the law.

“Keep the whole commandment that I command you today.”

:1-4 1. Write the law in plain sight.

“And you shall write on them all the words of this law...”

:5-8 2. Include the law in worship.

“...you shall build an altar to the Lord your God...”

:9, 10 B. Remember who you are.

“...this day you have become the people of the Lord your God.”

:11-26 C. Remember the consequences.

“That day Moses charged the people...”

:11-14 1. Engage the ritual.

“...these shall stand on Mount Gerizim to bless the people...”

“And these shall stand on Mount Ebal for the curse...”

cf. Genesis 12:6; 33:18-20; Joshua 8:30-35; 24:11-26; I Kings 12:1

:15-27 2. Affirm the warning.

“And all the people shall say, ‘Amen.’”

:15 a. Praise God alone.

“Cursed be the man who makes a carved or cast metal image...”

:16, 17 b. Preserve the family.

“Cursed be anyone who dishonors his father or his mother.”

“Cursed be anyone who moves his neighbor’s landmark.”

:18, 19 c. Promote social justice.

“Cursed be anyone who misleads a blind man... who perverts the justice due to the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow.”

:20-23 d. Practice sexual purity.

“Cursed be anyone who lies with his father’s wife... any kind of animal... his sister... his mother-in-law.”

:24-25 e. Protect human life.

“Cursed be anyone who strikes down his neighbor in secret... who takes a bribe to shed innocent blood.”

:26 f. Practice the whole law.

“Cursed be anyone who does not confirm the words of this Law by doing them.”

cf. Galatians 3:10

28:1-68 II. The covenant must be obeyed.

:1-14 A. You will be blessed if you obey.

“And if you faithfully obey the voice of the Lord your God...”

- :1** 1. High above all others.
"...the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth."
- :2** 2. By grace.
"And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you..."
 cf. Ephesians 1:3-14
- :3-14** 3. In all of life.
 • in city and field (3)
 • fertile womb, ground, livestock (4, 5, 8, 11, 12)
 • when you come in and go out (6)
 • protection from enemies (7)
 • close to the Lord so others know it (9, 10, 13, 14)
- :15-68** B. You will be cursed if you disobey.
"But if you will not obey... all these curses will come upon you and overtake you."
 cf. Amos 4:6-13; Jeremiah 11:1-8; I Peter 4:17; Ezekiel 9:1-6; Malachi 3:1-4
- :15-19** 1. In all of life.
"Cursed shall you be in the city, and cursed shall you be in the field."
 cf. 28:3-6; Jeremiah 2:27f.; 3:23f.; 14:22
- :20-57** 2. In horrific captivity.
"You shall father sons and daughters, but they shall not be yours, for they shall go into captivity."
"The Lord will bring a nation against you from far away..."
"They shall besiege you..."
 cf. II Chronicles 7:13, 14; 36:15-21
- :58-68** 3. In reversal of redemption.
"And he will bring upon you again all the diseases of Egypt..."
"And the Lord will bring you back in ships to Egypt..."

Where does this leave us?

Where does this lead us?